(b) if so, what action the Government have taken on the same; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to lay the explanation and their orders on the table of the House?

A.—The Government have not called for any explanation as under the rules the grant of a ferry lease is a matter within the discretion of the President, District Board.

Alleged suspension of a teacher in the Board High School, Angadipuram.

* 1685 Q.—Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a teacher named M. K. Raman Nayar employed in the Board High School, Angadipuram, was suspended for two months by the District Board President, Malabar, for observing hartal on the 3rd February 1928;

(b) whether the said teacher had stated in his application for casual leave for that day that he wanted to observe hartal;

(c) whether the Government have issued instructions that mere absence on leave with whatever motive is tantamount to participation in a political movement under rule 99 of the Madras Educational Rules;

(d) whether there is any rule that a teacher employed in Government school or board school should entertain particular views on politics and none other;

(e) whether the said teacher when threatened with punishment had expressed regret for his conduct and whether he was suspended in spite of such expression of regret; and

(f) whether the hon. Minister proposes to interfere in the matter and cancel the said order?

A.—(a) Yes.
(b) Yes.
(c) No.
(d) No.
(e) Yes.
(f) No.

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR:—"May I know for what offence under the Educational Code or any other Code this man was punished?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is within the discretion of the District Board President to award any punishment he chooses to his subordinates."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR:—"For what offence has he been punished?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That is a matter for the District Board President."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR:—"May I know, Sir, from the hon. the Minister for what offence this M. K. Raman Nayar has been punished, is it for observing hartal or for being absent from school?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"For breaking the discipline of the school."

[11th March 1929

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" What breaking of the discipline he is guilty of ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" A servant of the local board must observe the rules of the board."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" To be at his home on a particular day is a breach of discipline ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" After hearing the reasons for the absence and if such reasons are not satisfactory, the President, District Board, has the power to punish the man."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" Is entertainment of a certain political opinion and keeping at home on that account an offence ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" That is for the President, District Board, to decide."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know from the hon. the Education Minister under what rule of the Educational Rules, this man was punished ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As I have stated, there is no question of educational rule ; it is a matter of departmental action taken by the President, District Board, Malabar."

Mr. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR :—" What exactly the rule was under which he was punished ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" He must ask that of the President, District Board."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know why the hon. the Minister does not choose to interfere in the matter to find out what the particular offence was for which he was punished ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" There is no necessity for finding out any such thing."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I know whether this particular President was elected or nominated by the Minister ? (Laughter.) "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Notice. (Renewed laughter.) "

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know if the hon. Minister has satisfied himself as to the exact reason why this man was punished before he declined to interfere in the matter ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I think the President, District Board, took action rightly."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Am I to understand that the hon. Minister does not know that the President was nominated by him ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is giving information."